(b) if so, whether Government has assessed the annual requirement in various disciplines over next 10-15 years and regulate the number of seats for admission in various colleges, institutes and universities accordingly;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) to (d) While higher education does have a linkage to employment opportunities, the essence of education goes beyond to the wide vision of growing knowledge through research, including values and bringing forth informed citizens. The Ministry of Human Resource Development has not commissioned any study to relate the output of higher education to the employment opportunities in the country.

Universalisation of Secondary Education

†1899. SHRI LALIT KISHORE CHATURVEDI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is working on a plan for universalisation of Secondary Education;

(b) if so, by when this scheme will be ready;

(c) the total yearly expenditure proposed to be incurred on this scheme;

(d) the funding pattern of the scheme; and

(e) whether the Union Government will bear the entire cost?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) and (b) The new centrally sponsored scheme called "Rashtriya Madhyamik Shiksha Abhiyan" is meant to universalize access to secondary education and to improve its quality. The scheme has already been launched in March, 2009.

(c) The allocation for the scheme for the Eleventh Five Year Plan is Rs. 20,120 crore. A provision of Rs. 1353.98 crore has been made in 2009-10 for this scheme.

(d) and (e) The sharing pattern between the centre and the states, for both recurring and non-recurring cost, during the Eleventh Five Year Plan is 75:25, while for the north-eastern states, the ratio is 90:10.

Committee on Higher Education

1900. SHRI N. BALAGANGA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the high-level committee on 'Renovation and Rejuvenation' of Higher Education submitted its report to Government;

(b) if so, whether Government has accepted the recommendations of the committee; and

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.